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Monday, January 14, 2013

PAIGE OZAROWSKI/METRO

Brewerytown's past, future under the lens

A new photography series on the neighborhood looks to document the experience of residents ◗ Revitalization efforts don't always involve the existing community, says photographer Tieshka Smith {page 02}

Golden Globes

Poehler and Fey right on the snark

No one in Hollywood was off limits as the hostesses brought the laughs {page 11}

RIKARD LARMA/METRO

Naked City. 'No Pants Subway Ride'

▶ As you may have noticed, yesterday was the 12th annual "No Pants Subway Ride" — which is exactly what it sounds like {page 02}.

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In Brewerytown, striving to see the whole picture

As the North Philly neighborhood undergoes a revitalization, photographer Tieshka Smith's portrait series provides a glimpse of residents Connection between existing community and new plans is sometimes lacking, she says

Late last week, photographer Tieshka Smith hung images in the Next City storefront to promote "Portraits of Brewerytown," an exhibition of her photo essay on the North Philly neighborhood. Over the course of a few hours, dozens of men stopped on the sidewalk, filled with emotion, to gaze at the photo of Brewerytown resident and longtime boxing trainer Stan Williams.

"When a community is transforming, the question becomes, 'What happens to the memories and the collective experience of those that were there before the change?'" said Smith, shortly before Friday's opening reception. "I'm trying to create images that honor the experience of those people — reconnect them to their own lives in that neighborhood."

It was Smith's recent Germantown project that caught the eye of Next City, who quickly commissioned her for a Brewerytown effort. "Portraits of Brewerytown" is Next City's first event in its new Girard Avenue Storefront for Urban Innovation.

It's an interesting choice for the Philly-based nonprofit: Smith is often critical of urban planners and outside interests attempting to "transition" neighborhoods. Urban planning and development is at the core of Next City's mission.

"I learned an important lesson in Germantown: Most of the people I engaged on the street were not the same people that were making decisions about how the community was going to transform itself," says Smith. "So when I engage people, I make sure to talk to them about the plans that are out there for their neighborhood."

▶ "Most feel they aren't connected to [development] plans. I want to put a face on that," says photographer Tieshka Smith of her Brewerytown series.

PAIGE OZAROWSKI/METRO

Quoted

"All of our exhibits up to this point have really been ones where we were just showcasing an artist's work in our space. This is a step in the right direction: commissioning artists to cross the line between art and urban advocacy." DIANA LIND, NEXT CITY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

What's next

Founded by a pair of Yale University grads, Next City began in 2003 as a magazine reporting on urban development in the United States. With major contributions from the Ford Foundation and the William Penn Foundation, among many others, Next City is now a Web-only publication, focused on issues affecting urban environments worldwide.

In the neighborhood

Diana Lind, executive director of Next City, was among those who attended the crowded opening reception for the "Portraits of Brewerytown."

"We had been working in Center City offices for a long time. The whole purpose of what we were doing was trying to source these ideas about trying to improve the built environment," she said, straining her voice above a band playing just behind her. "But you end up in an echo chamber if you don't actually interact with communities. So we've decided to be based in a neighborhood — to have a presence."

2012 was a banner year for Next City: It transitioned the publication into an entirely digital endeavor, while creating a much anticipated Philadelphia Journalism Fellowship. Plus, it opened a new events space on 27th Street and Girard Avenue, and it received a TED City 2.0 grant to make it happen.

Bruce Walsh
bruce.walsh@metro.us

In the news

Man stabbed during night club fight

A man is hospitalized in critical condition after a fight outside Pinnacle Nightclub on the 700 block of Arch Street early yesterday morning. Police said that when the brawl broke out shortly before 1:30 a.m., the 22-year-old victim was stabbed in the torso. No arrests have yet been made in connection with the assault.

METRO/AW

Local tweet

"Can someone explain to me why nobody is wearing pants today because I'm so very confused."

SARAH GLORIOSO, @APPLE_BOTTOMG, WHO APPARENTLY CAUGHT SOME OF YESTERDAY'S "NO PANTS SUBWAY RIDE"

'No Pants Subway Ride' comes to Philly

RIKARD LARMA/METRO

▶ Some brave commuters chose to forgo pants yesterday.

The "No Pants Subway Ride" rolled through Philly yesterday — and despite the brisk weather, most participants received warm welcomes from fellow commuters. "It really brings students into the subway more," said Drexel biology major Richard Furstein, who headed up this year's event.

The participants each year consist largely of students at both Drexel and Temple universities. "I think we need to bring student life into urban infrastructure," Furstein said. "They become so much more invested in it and this does it in a fun way. We're not forcing people to ride the subway — it's an adventure."

130 On the event's Facebook page, 130 people RSVPed — although rough estimates put yesterday's crowd at about 60 pants-less people.

Comedy group Improv Everywhere started the annual meetup in New York City 11 years ago, and it has since caught on in cities across the world.

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In the news

Bus driver stops bike thief

RIKARD LARMA/METRO

CENTER CITY. A SEPTA bus driver on Saturday night thwarted a thief who allegedly stole bicycles from two on-duty police officers.

Police said the officers secured their bikes to a pole on South 17th Street near Sansom Street around 8:15 p.m. A SEPTA Route 16 driver saw a man place two police bicycles on the front rack of the bus near City Hall. When the driver asked the man where the bikes came from, he removed them and headed to the nearby subway entrance. The driver notified SEPTA police, who found the bikes. **METRO/AW**

Man posed as fire inspector

CENTER CITY. Police on Friday arrested a man for allegedly posing as a fire inspector to enter and steal from at least three Philadelphia landmarks.

Christopher Keiter, 26, is charged with burglary, criminal trespass, theft and impersonating a public servant. Authorities were able to track Keiter down because he signed the visitor log-in books using his real name. **METRO/AW**

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Opinion

JOHN BOLARIS
BOLARIS VISION

DID WINTER DECIDE TO HIBERNATE?

After the atmospheric explosion of superstorm Sandy back in late October, our winter has been relatively quiet and far from severe. So far, only 1.1 inches of snow have fallen this winter — just enough to cover your tallest blade of grass or put a coating down on your sidewalk.

If you read my long-range forecast for this very paper back in October, I was calling for a near-normal winter with average temperatures for this season and anywhere from 20-25 inches of snow (an average winter will normally pick up about 22 inches), with most of the snow falling in February.

Quoted

Forecasting snow totals for an entire winter season is nothing more than an educated crap shoot.

Here is the thing that drives me crazy and I would never be allowed to say on air, as any news director would hog tie me (and maybe rightly so): Forecasting snow totals for an entire winter season is nothing more than an educated crap shoot. Ask any meteorologist if he or she can nail a snow amount for the entire winter season. If they say yes, it's time to turn the channel.

When forecasting snow amounts for a winter season, we should simply say "average," "below average" or "more than average." But doing it that way will never fly — it's not sexy enough and you can't sell it on the news. Imagine Jim Gardner throwing to Cecily Tynan, "Hey Cecily how much snow we getting this winter?" "An average amount Jim, back to you."

So with all this being said, I'm sticking to my "average" winter forecast. Are you ready for some snow at this point or happy to skip it entirely? E-mail me your thoughts to letters@metro.us.

Storm watch

Are we out of the woods for any more Sandy-style mega storms? The answer is simply no, for years to come.

A few months back I said we are in for a La Nada winter, meaning no El Nino or La Nina warming or cooling of the surface water of the eastern and central Pacific Ocean. Hence, the atmosphere is up for grabs. With no El Nino or La Nina, we rely heavily upon other factors such as the North Atlantic Oscillation, better know as the NAO. If it's in the positive phase, it leads to milder temps and lack of East Coast storms. If it's in the negative phase, there's a much better chance of cold and snow. In 2013, the phase has been mainly positive with a lack of big snows and major arctic outbreaks.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages. Opposing viewpoints are welcome. Send 100-word submissions to letters@metro.us.

No trillion-dollar coins; Obama fitness

Debt crisis

▶ So much for the $1 trillion platinum coin idea.

GETTY IMAGES

Treasury, Fed kill idea of $1 trillion platinum coins

WASHINGTON. The U.S. Treasury Department said it will not produce platinum coins as a way of generating $1 trillion in revenue and avoiding a battle in Congress over raising the U.S. debt ceiling.

The idea of creating $1 trillion by minting platinum coins has gained some currency among Democrats in recent days as a way of sidestepping congressional Republicans who are threatening to reject a necessary increase in the debt ceiling unless deep spending cuts are made.

The Treasury Department and the Federal Reserve, both independent of one another, each concluded this was not a viable option. **REUTERS**

Staying fit

Obama undergoes fitness exam

WASHINGTON. President Barack Obama had a little personal fitness boot camp at the Pentagon.

Obama participated in a fitness evaluation at a Pentagon clinic, part of the periodic medical examination that is coordinated by the president's doctor.

He was at the Fit to Win Clinic inside the Pentagon. The clinic's website says its objective is to enhance "military readiness and civilian wellness through fitness, nutrition, health education and positive lifestyle behavior changes." **REUTERS**

GETTY IMAGES

H.W. getting better

Ex-President George HW Bush may leave hospital soon

AUSTIN, TEXAS. Former President George H.W. Bush, who has been hospitalized in Houston since November, may be released from the facility in the coming days, a family spokesman said yesterday.

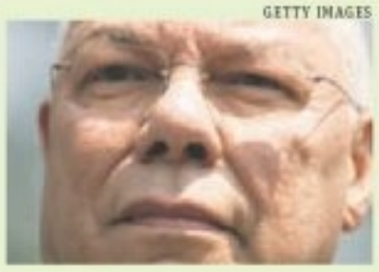
"We are hopeful that the president can be discharged this coming week, but we're still taking everything one day at a time," spokesman Jim McGrath said in an e-mail. **REUTERS**

In Hagel's corner

Hagel 'superbly qualified' to head Defense, Powell says

WASHINGTON. Chuck Hagel, a Vietnam War veteran, is "superbly qualified" to run the Pentagon, former Secretary of State Colin Powell said in a television interview. Powell appeared on "Meet the Press" yesterday, rejecting criticism over a comment Hagel made about the "Jewish lobby" and a 2007 vote opposing the designation of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps as a terrorist group. **BLOOMBERG**

GETTY IMAGES



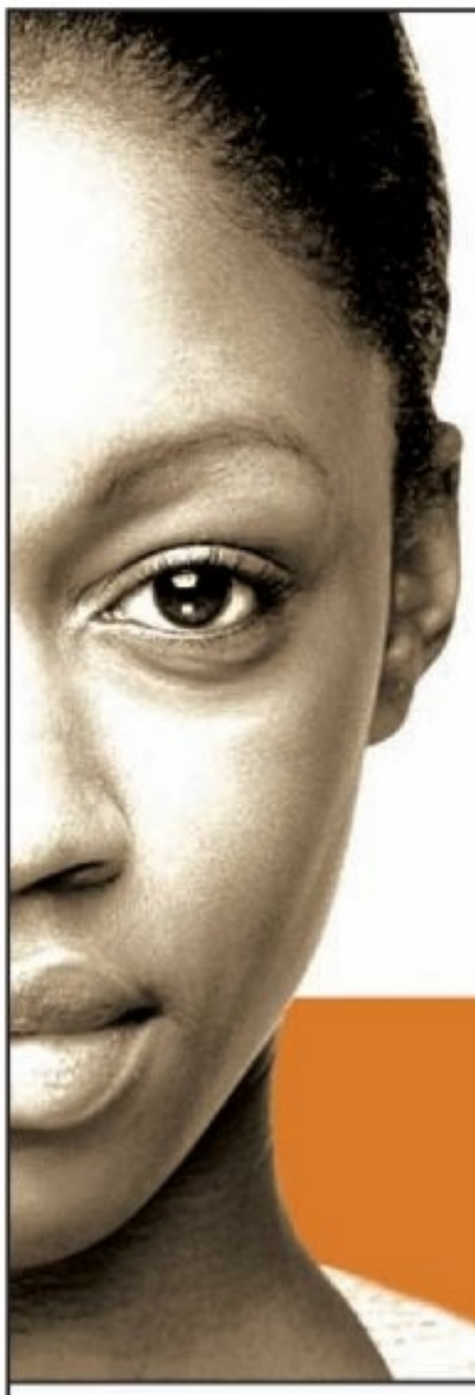
Nothing to sneeze at

Flu cases are widespread in US, some states improve

WASHINGTON. Flu is widespread in 47 states and deaths from the virus and pneumonia are slightly above the epidemic level, though some regions may begin to see fewer cases, U.S. disease trackers said.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported 20 children died from the flu. The agency doesn't tally adult deaths until after the end of the season. Two children in New York have died from the flu. **BLOOMBERG**

47 The flu epidemic is now is widespread in 47 states.



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In the news

Armstrong to admit to doping

Lance Armstrong will admit to doping during his cycling career in a television interview with Oprah Winfrey, USA Today reports, citing an unidentified person with knowledge of the situation.

The interview will be taped today at Armstrong's home in Austin, Texas, and broadcast three days later on the Oprah Winfrey Network, the paper said on its website. Armstrong, 41, plans to say he used performance-enhancing drugs without giving any detail on specific cases and events, USA Today said, citing the person. Armstrong has repeatedly denied using drugs to further his cycling career.

Armstrong was banned from competing for life by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency in August and stripped of his seven Tour de France victories after declining to take the case to arbitration.

He lost the titles for what the USADA later said was a "career fueled start to finish by doping." He forced teammates to dope or be fired from his team, and himself transfused blood and used testosterone and erythropoietin, or EPO, the agency said. **BLOOMBERG**

Boeing 787 power system said focus of FAA review

U.S. regulators said they will perform a far-reaching investigation of Boeing Co.'s 787 Dreamliner after a fire on a Japan Airlines Co. (9201) jet this week followed several incidents last year.

The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration will undertake a comprehensive review of the 787's critical systems, which includes "the design, manufacture and assembly," the Department of Transportation said in a statement. The review is in addition to a U.S. National Transportation Safety Board probe of the Jan. 7 fire that the agency said caused severe damage to the battery pack area of the 787. **BLOOMBERG**

▶ Boeing 787

DAVID MCNEW/GETTY IMAGES

On debt ceiling, markets hopeful Washington has already learned its lesson

The U.S. government is expected to bump up against its legal borrowing limit by March, and it would be hard to fault investors for feeling edgy.

The last fight over the debt ceiling led to one of the most volatile weeks in stock market history, cost ing the United States its top credit rating and pushing the government to the brink of default.

But this time around, markets are calm, with the benchmark S&P 500 barely budging on Friday after notching a five-year closing high on Thursday. Some investors seem to be betting that Congress learned its lesson from the bruising debt ceiling fight of 2011 and will choose compromise over market meltdown. Lawmakers remain far apart in their views. Republicans want the White House to agree to deep spending cuts in exchange for raising the $16.4 trillion borrowing limit. But some conservatives are warning against playing hardball with the debt ceiling. **REUTERS**

CHIP SOMODEVILLA/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Investors to Congress: Don't drop the ball this time.

There's an index for that

Meanwhile, the CBOE Volatility index, Wall Street's preferred anxiety gauge that is known as the VIX, ended Friday just a few hundredths of a point from its lowest closing level since 2007.

Quoted

"We played this game of chicken before, and we all know how that played out and we don't want to repeat that. The market knows this. Investors know it's not going to be like 2011."

JACK DE GAN, CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER, HARBOR ADVISORY

States flirt with big tax changes

Hopes for overhauling the federal tax system are fading in Washington, but in some state capitals, tax reform experiments — some far-reaching — are fast taking shape. **REUTERS**

- Across the U.S. South and Midwest, Republicans have consolidated control of state legislatures and governorships, giving them the power to test long-debated tax ideas.
- **Louisiana** Gov. Bobby Jindal called for ending the state's income tax and corporate taxes, with sales taxes instead.
- A similar plan is being pushed by Republicans in **North Carolina**. **Kansas**, which cut its income tax significantly last year, may trim further. **Oklahoma**, which tried to cut income taxes last year, is expected to try again.
- Cutting income taxes and shifting the overall burden to consumption via higher sales taxes is a long-standing goal of some tax theorists.

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In the news

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▶ Costa Concordia

Survivors mark anniversary of Concordia cruise shipwreck

GIGLIO ISLAND, ITALY. Survivors of the Costa Concordia disaster and relatives of the 32 people who died returned to the Italian island of Giglio yesterday to mark one year since the luxury cruise liner capsized.

A boat ferried the visitors close to where the 950-foot-long ship hit rocks before keeling over on its side off the Tuscan island, where it still lies now.

They threw bunches of flowers in the sea and watched as a crane lowered part of a rock that was removed from the hull and has been carved into a memorial and adorned with a plaque, into the water.

Their boat sounded its horn 32 times to salute the dead. **REUTERS**

Bomb kills 14 Pakistani soldiers in North Waziristan

MIRANSHAH, PAKISTAN. A roadside bomb killed as many as 14 Pakistani soldiers in the northern border region of North Waziristan yesterday, a day after the Pakistani Taliban leader called for attacks on military in the area to stop.

The explosion occurred on a road about 30 miles south of the provincial capital of Miranshah. Twenty-one soldiers were wounded in the attack, senior army officials said.

A spokesman for the Mujahideen Ansar, a group dominated by Uzbek fighters, claimed responsibility. **REUTERS**

France bombs Islamist stronghold in north Mali

French fighter jets pounded an Islamist rebel stronghold deep in northern Mali yesterday as Paris poured more troops into the capital Bamako, awaiting a West African force to dislodge al Qaeda-linked insurgents from the country's north.

The attack on Gao, the largest city in the desert region controlled by the Islamist alliance, marked a decisive intensification on the third day of French air raids, striking at the heart of the vast territory seized by rebels in April.

France is determined to end Islamist domination of north Mali, which many fear could act as a base for attacks on the West and for links with al Qaeda in Yemen, Somalia and North Africa.

France's Defense Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian said French intervention on Friday had prevented the advancing rebels from seizing Bamako. He vowed that air strikes would continue.

"The president is totally determined that we must eradicate these terrorists who threaten the security of Mali, our own country and Europe," he told French television. **REUTERS**

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Paris said that four state-of-the-art Rafale jets flew from France to strike rebel training camps, logistics depots and infrastructure in Gao with the aim of weakening the rebels and preventing them from returning southward.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ French Defense Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian

'Operation Serval'

France has deployed about 550 soldiers to Mali under "Operation Serval," named after an African wildcat, split between Bamako and the town of Mopti, which is 300 miles north.

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THE WORD

Monica Weymouth's take on the world of gossip @monicaatmetro monica.weymouth@metro.us

– Dorothy Robinson will return on January 21.

Brace yourself for a Britstorm

Britney Spears is really on a makeover mission for the new year. After quitting "The X Factor" last week, she decided to further shake up her 2013 by ending things with fiance **Jason Trawick** over the weekend.

"Jason and I have decided to call off our engagement. I'll always adore him and we will remain great friends," Spears said in a statement that we assume was heavily edited.

Unfortunately, there's no head-shaving and car-smashing to speak of this time around. Sources tell TMZ that the reasons for the split are pretty normal by celebrity standards: Trawick was a little uneasy being an usher at the Britney Circus; the couple couldn't decide on having children; Britney Spears is Britney-effing-Spears.

So where do you go when you quit your job and your fiance in the same week? Vegas, baby. Brit's reportedly close to a deal with Caesar properties for a long-term gig. According to TMZ, the paycheck will be "astronomical," topping **Celine Dion**'s $100 million-per-year deal at Caesars.

How much do we want to jump in a red convertible with Britney and drive across the desert right now?

So much.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Relax, Britney — Vegas is the booze and glitter capital of the world.

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

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If you have terrible luck with roommates, YOU'RE the terrible roommate

@JimGaffigan
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@robdelaney
Even though I work from home I still wear a big ID & have a ridiculous lanyard filled with keys & I "swipe" in & out of the bathroom.

@Joan_Rivers
My doctor told me that this flu epidemic is a lot like the Kardashians: It's not going away anytime soon.

@azizansari
Really cool of Justin Timberlake to play us all the albums he's releasing until 2016 at this mornings Illuminati meeting. Great stuff!

Delaney

Gaga vs. the Osbournes

Lady Gaga has picked herself quite the fight. In an open letter to **Kelly Osbourne** — who is a commenter on E! network's catty "Fashion Police" — Gaga whipped out the B-word, calling Osbourne a bully on her blog.

"To see you blossoming into a beautiful slender woman who makes fun of others for a living is astounding. Why not help others?" wondered Gaga in one of the more annoying pieces of prose on the Web.

Now **Sharon Osbourne** has come to her daughter's defense. "You say [Kelly's] work on E! with the Fashion Police is 'rooted in criticism, judgment, and rating people's beauty against one another.' Welcome to the real world," the 60-year-old firecracker snapped on her Facebook page. "Example, when I saw you wear a dress made out of raw meat, I was sickened."

Listen, Gaga: Don't engage in an Internet fight with someone who has made a living being the craziest, scariest Osbourne. This woman's a survivor, and she totally wants your little dog, too.

You look pretty today, Sharon.

Count him as a reference

In a piece titled "Here Is What Happens When You Cast Lindsay Lohan in Your Movie," The New York Times called out **Lindsay Lohan** for being difficult on the set of "The Canyons." Now, **Grant Bowler**, her costar in "Liz & Dick," is coming to her defense — kind of. "I never got yelled at," he tells E! Online. "To be completely fair to Lindsay, that did not happen. She didn't threaten me at all."

When you're Lindsay Lohan, "she didn't threaten me at all" is the equivalent of a solid LinkedIn recommendation.

Talking points

Wilde, Sudeikis making it official

Olivia Wilde and "Saturday Night Live" star **Jason Sudeikis** are officially engaged, a rep confirms to People magazine. "They are so excited," a source tells the magazine. "And very, very happy." Rumors of engagement plans last month were apparently just a bit premature, as Sudeikis reportedly popped the question shortly after the holidays. The pair began dating in November 2011, and Wilde has made no effort to hide her affections for Sudeikis, telling USA Today that she fell "blissfully, hopelessly, wildly in love" with him. "We hold hands. I f—ing never hold hands."

▶ Too cute to fail: Wilde and Sudeikis

Bryants work things out

L.A. Lakers star **Kobe Bryant** and his wife **Vanessa** are not splitting up after all. "We are pleased to announce that we have reconciled. Our divorce action will be dismissed. We are looking forward to our future together," Vanessa announced via her Instagram account. Kobe took to his official Facebook page to go into a bit more detail, writing, "I am happy to say that Vanessa and I are moving on with our lives together as a family. When the show ends and the music stops, the journey is made beautiful by having that someone to share it with."

Get ready to 'aw!' about Bradley Cooper

Bradley Cooper didn't have to worry too much about who to take to the Oscars now that he's up for Best Actor for his work in "Silver Linings Playbook." That decision was made a long time ago. "One night, when I started the profession, [my mom said], 'If you ever [get nominated], I am the date,'" he tells E! News, adding that he has already informed mom **Gloria** that she needs to find a nice dress for the Feb. 24 event. "She was freaking out," he says.

GOLDEN GLOBE AWARDS

All of Hollywood was focused on the 70th annual Golden Globe Awards last night as awards season kicked into high gear with the Hollywood Foreign Press' yearly party at the Beverly Hilton. While the TV industry enjoyed the limelight as well, the real question is how the night's movie winners will impact the ongoing Oscar race.

This year's new co-hosts, Tina Fey and Amy Poehler, drew early raves for their work, with a lively opening segment that poked just enough fun at the attendees to make it memorable. "Only at the Golden Globes do the beautiful people of film rub shoulders with the rat-faced people of television," joked Poehler, who was up against Fey for Best Actress in a Television Comedy.

"I hope I win," Poehler told Fey.

The ladies also took a moment to poke fun at Ricky Gervais, who hosted the three previous years and drew increasing criticism each time for jokes that some felt crossed the line into meanness.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

▶ Fey and Poehler brought the funny last night.

"Ricky Gervais could not be here tonight because he's no longer in show business," Fey joked. Fey and Poehler also noted they'd been warned the punishment for going too far was being asked back to host the next year.

The first award of the night went to Christoph Waltz, who received the Best Supporting Actor globe for his work in "Django Unchained," beating out co-star Leonardo DiCaprio as well as "Lincoln" scene-stealer Tommy Lee Jones, who is considered the Oscar frontrunner in the category.

The hostesses didn't hold back

"When it comes to torture, I trust the lady who spent three years married to James Cameron."
POEHLER WONDERS WHY KATHRYN BIGELOW'S FILMS ALL SEEM TO INVOLVE TORTURE

"His first two films were filmed in Boston, but he wanted to film somewhere that was friendlier to outsiders so he moved this one to Iran."
FEY RIBS BEN AFFLECK FOR "ARGO"

"I haven't seen someone so totally alone and abandoned since you were onstage with James Franco at the Oscars."
FEY PAYS ANNE HATHAWAY A BACKHANDED COMPLIMENT FOR HER "LES MISERABLES" ROLE

Composer Mychael Danna picked up the Best Score award for "Life of Pi," while Adele received her first Golden Globe for Best Song for "Skyfall." "Oh my God! Honestly, I've come out for a night as a new mom," Adele said in an endearing acceptance speech. "I was literally not expecting this."

On the TV side of things, early awards mirrored last September's Emmy awards. Maggie Smith won for Best Supporting Actress for "Downton Abbey," and "Homeland" star Damien Lewis earned the trophy for Best Actor in a TV Drama. "Homeland" also won for Best TV Drama. HBO's "Game Change," about Sarah Palin's introduction into the 2008 presidential race, won big, taking home Best TV Movie and Best Actress in a TV Movie for Julianne Moore's depiction of Palin.

Ned Ehrbar
METRO WORLD NEWS

Other winners

- **Best TV Drama:** "Homeland"
- **Best Mini-Series or Motion Picture:** "Game Change"
- **Best Actor in a TV Drama:** Damien Lewis, "Homeland"
- **Best Actor in TV Series, Mini-Series or Made-for-TV Movie:** Kevin Costner, "Hatfields and McCoys"
- **Best Actress in a Mini-Series or TV Movie:** Julianne Moore, "Game Change"
- **Best Supporting Actress in TV Series, Mini-Series or Made-for-TV Movie:** Maggie Smith, "Downton Abbey"
- **Best Actress in a Motion Picture:** Jennifer Lawrence, "Silver Linings Playbook"
- **Best Actor in a Motion Picture:** Ed Harris, "Game Change"
- **Best Supporting Actress in a Motion Picture:** Anne Hathaway, "Les Miserables"

— For a complete list of winners, visit ***www.metro.us***

Red carpet

- **1. Katharine McPhee**, what nice, um, eyes you have. The actress, in a Theyskens' Theory gown with plunging neckline, said she wanted to be "sexy" this year. Mission accomplished.
- **2.** The best accessory for these ladies? Their pre-baby body. **Claire Danes** wore red Versace and **Megan Fox** was in blush Dolce & Gabbana.
- **3. Kerry Washington,** wearing Miu Miu, dazzled in one of the night's big trends: blush pink.
- **4. Jessica Chastain**'s hair inspiration? We're guessing Scarlett O'Hara. As for her "seafoam" gown, that'd be the work of Calvin Klein.
- **5.** The puffy bodice on **Jennifer Lawrence**'s red Dior Haute Couture gown had some heads scratching.
- **6. Benedict Cumberbatch** gave Bradley Cooper some stiff competition for best hair.
- **7. Anne Hathaway**'s sparkly Chanel peplum isn't helping the pregnancy rumors.

myentertainment

Not gunning for much change

Makers of 'Gangster Squad' and 'The Last Stand' sound off on violence and gun control

The recent high-profile U.S. shootings — most notably in a movie theater in Colorado in July and an elementary school in Connecticut just before Christmas — have brought attention back to gun violence in popular culture. It's an issue the people behind two of this month's more bullet-ridden releases have had to grapple with.

"It's obviously something that's affected all of us. I don't think anybody has spent the last few weeks not thinking a lot about that, but this is fantasy and that's reality," says Lorenzo di Bonaventura, producer of the Arnold Schwarzenegger shoot-'em-up "The Last Stand," out this Friday. "I'm not a politician, so I'll stay off my point of view, but it's clearly something that all of us have a great deal of respect for, what those people have suffered."

Scene re-shot

One film that's been even more closely linked to recent tragedy is "Gangster Squad," about police going to war with a ruthless criminal in 1940s L.A. Originally, the film featured a scene depicting mobsters opening fire on a movie theater full of patrons, but Warner Bros. cut the scene and postponed the film's release following the shooting in Aurora, Colo. "The Aurora shooting was an unspeakable tragedy, and out of respect

▶ "Gangster Squad" director Ruben Fleischer says the film was re-edited following the tragedy in Newtown, Conn.

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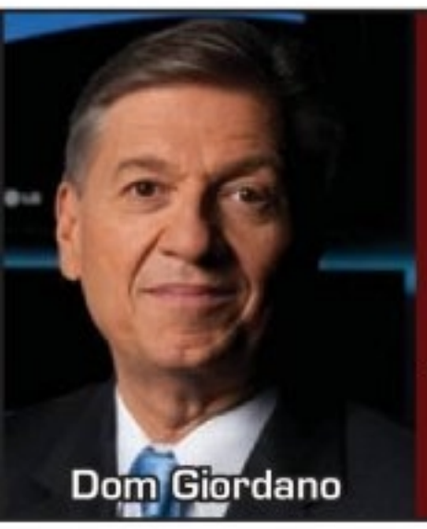

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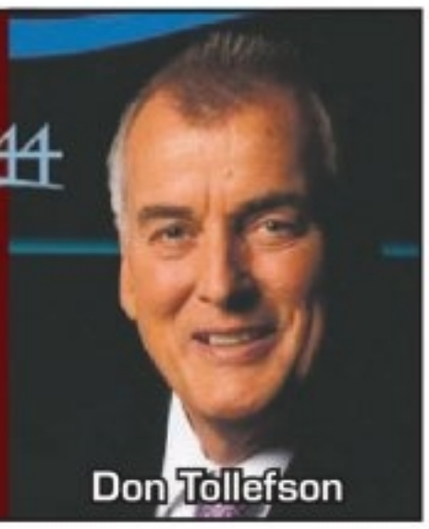

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in Hollywood

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▶ Arnold Schwarzenegger, star of "The Last Stand," which comes out next Friday, speculates that mental health treatment should be examined in the wake of recent gun violence.

Quoted

"How can we do better with gun laws? If there is any loophole, if there is a problem there, let's analyze it."

SCHWARZENEGGER

for the families of the victims, we felt it necessary to re-shoot that sequence — and I'm proud of the fact that I did that," director Ruben Fleischer says. "I think that we should all respect the tragedy and not draw associations."

While producers and directors might be careful with their statements, their stars seem more willing to spout off on the topic. "Gangster Squad" star Josh Brolin says connecting violence onscreen to violence in real life is a misguided oversimplification. "You have to look at the grand scheme of things, from a universal standpoint," Brolin, who fires his fair share of rounds in "Gangster Squad," says.

Analysis needed

Schwarzenegger agrees that scapegoating entertainment is a mistake. "It's two different issues. This is entertainment, and the other thing is a tragedy beyond belief," he says, referring to the shooting in Newtown, Conn.

The former governor of California, who's no stranger to hot-button issues, already sees plenty of areas that need investigating. "How can we do better with gun laws? If there is any loophole, if there is a problem there, let's analyze it. Let's not jump to conclusions," he says.

Ned Ehrbar
NED.EHRBAR@METRO.US

Box office

'Zero Dark Thirty' leads at weekend box office

"Zero Dark Thirty," Hollywood's retelling of the decade-long manhunt for Osama bin Laden, captured the No. 1 spot on movie box office charts over the weekend, with $24 million in U.S. and Canadian ticket sales.

The movie — which was directed by Kathryn Bigelow and stars Jessica Chastain as a dogged CIA agent — edged out horror-movie spoof "A Haunted House," which finished with $18.8 million, as well as "Gangster Squad," a period crime drama that finished in third place with $16.7 million from Friday through Sunday.

The weekend marked a strong start for Hollywood in 2013 after 2012's record-setting box office numbers.

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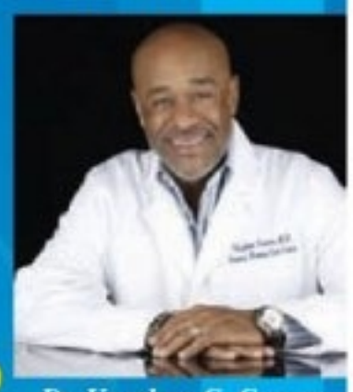
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THE NEW CARRIE

AnnaSophia Robb stars as a teenage Carrie Bradshaw, before she had sex or ruled the city

She opens up her makeup bag

In "The Carrie Diaries," the television prequel to "Sex and the City," AnnaSophia Robb stars as a 16-year-old, pre-Manolo, pre-Big Carrie Bradshaw. But unlike the fashion-obsessed icon she plays on screen, Robb has a low-maintenance approach to makeup and clothes. We discuss.

"The Carrie Diaries" premieres tonight at 8 on The CW.

Putting the makeup on ... and taking it off

"I don't really wear makeup anymore. ... I kind of stopped because when I'm working I have it on for up to 15 hours a day. So on the weekends or before work, I only put on moisturizer."

Makeup from the '80s — yay or nay?

"Eighties makeup was just a bunch of colors and crazy neon. I don't know if I love it. The blush was really strong and bright and if you didn't have the skin tone to pull it off, it was way too heavy. But, if you put a piece of paper on your cheek to create that hard, drastic line, that look can be fun."

Her beauty mantra

"Look after your eyebrows! I was given an eyebrow brush on a job that I still use to this day. My friends make fun of me, but I love it. When I was younger, my mother taught me how to apply blush. Get it wrong and there'll be way too much color and you'll just look 'warm.' Using bronzer is best."

The secret to nailing Carrie's hair: a wig

"I naturally have straight hair, which takes about two hours to curl, so it's faster for me to wear a wig. Carrie wears a lot of updos on the show, so we've been able to use a lot of fun accessories: banana clips and pins."

If she could raid one 'SATC' closet she'd choose ...

"Carrie's — I loved the skirts. She has a wild sense of style."

Romina McGuinness
METRO WORLD NEWS

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Pangea Organics Pyrenees Lavender with Cardamom Lip Balm: "I love wearing lipstick — my best friend turned me on to this one." $12, www.pangeaorganics.com

Lavanila The Healthy Rollerball Pure Vanilla: "I wear lots of different scents. Right now it's Signorina by Salvatore Ferragamo and Covet by Sarah Jessica Parker. But I usually carry roll-on perfume — just in case. My Lavanila stays on and smells holiday-esque." $19, www.lavanila.com

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TV watch list

BAY MICKSHAW/FOX

▶ Brennan (Emily Deschanel) and Booth (David Boreanaz) go undercover on a ballroom dancing television competition on "Bones."

'Bones'

DRAMA. Booth and Brennan go undercover on a televised dancing contest to figure out if the death of a ballroom instructor had anything to do with eliminating the competition for a disco-ball trophy. **8 p.m., Fox**

'Lost Girl'

DRAMA. Heroine Bo deals with professional secrets in the Fae realm and secrets of a more personal nature in the human world. Can't a succubus catch a break? **Season premiere, 10 p.m., Syfy**

'Food Factory'

REALITY. This making-of series goes behind the scenes to show how favorite foods — from Planters peanuts to a can of Campbell's soup — are created and packaged. **Series premiere, 10 p.m., Destination America**

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Why tobacco plants might be the panacea for the flu

Their leaves may lead us to a new vaccine, expert says And you won't need to worry about a flu shot with a side of nicotine

As the supply of vaccines continues to drop in wake of the latest flu epidemic, one company is turning to a peculiar source to combat the virus: tobacco plants.

Medicago, which develops vaccines for a variety of infectious diseases worldwide, is using tobacco plants to fight the flu thanks to their genetic properties and low maintenance costs. Though the scientists are not able to create a vaccine for the current strain wreaking havoc, they will have Phase II results of their experiment by this summer. From there, the time line to completion is common to any vaccine approval process — about four or five years.

We asked Mike Wanner, the executive vice president of operations at Medicago, to tell us more about his company's efforts to fight the flu.

How did you discover that tobacco plants could be used to create flu vaccines?

Plants are one of the world's most cost-effective protein producers and can make virtually any type of protein, from enzymes to antibodies. The ability to produce proteins in tobacco plants has several major advantages, including a unique capability of efficient protein expression at high yields and low costs. Medicago's process for manufacturing the virus-like protein, Proficia, has been developed and optimized for use with Nicotiana benthamiana — a relative of the tobacco plant. The leaves of these plants are well-suited to rapidly incorporate the genetic information required to produce proteins that appear to the human immune system as a live virus, but are actually virus-like particles with common surface proteins as the live virus. Thanks to the extensive experience accumulated on tobacco cultivation, scale-up and maintenance costs are relatively low. By using plants in general, costs associated with infrastructure and raw materials are lower and the risk of viral contaminants from animal sources is substantially reduced or eliminated.

PHOTODISC

▶ In the next few years, these could turn into flu-fighting hot commodities.

Q&A

Do patients who receive a tobacco-made vaccine absorb any tobacco byproducts? If not, how do you make sure that is avoided?

No. Medicago's transient expression manufacturing platform, Proficia, has been developed and optimized for use with a relative of the tobacco plant. Our vaccine facility includes a state-of-the-art extraction and purification unit and effectively removes plant cell materials. Therefore, the purity level of our product is extremely high.

Assuming you can find one, is it too late to get a flu shot?

No, everyone who has not yet gotten vaccinated should do so as soon as possible. The vaccine is known to become effective within about two weeks of vaccination.

Are there certain populations who would respond better to this type of vaccine than others?

The vaccine is meant to protect everybody against flu, but we are especially interested in offering protection to at-risk segments of the population, such as the elderly and young children.

What causes a flu epidemic to go away?

In the general population, as the epidemic proceeds, the number of people who are susceptible to a specific flu strain ultimately decreases and so the rate at which new infections arise also decreases. Eventually, the rate at which individuals are recovering exceeds the rate at which new infections are occurring. When this rate drops to zero, the epidemic is over.

Meredith Engel
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Use your voice — land an interview

You're not a boring office robot, so why should your cover letter be? Simple ways to make your application stand out

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Your cover letter should tell employers more than your daily tasks. Let them know what makes you the ideal candidate.

Pretend you're on Twitter: If your cover letter was a tweet, what would it say? Get right to the point without saying: "I'm applying for the ABC position at EFG Corporation that was posted on Simply Hired."

Writing this sentence on Twitter would be a total waste of characters. Instead, your cover letter should start with your pitch: "I'd be a great fit for the ABC position because XYZ."

Stop saying that you have "strong analytical skills" and instead analyze the job description and craft some very concise and specific statements demonstrating why you'd be perfect for the gig.

Lose your laundry lists: Why does your résumé include laundry lists of each daily task you performed for all the jobs you've ever had? If you were a part-time receptionist, anyone who looks at your résumé will know that you answered the phone. What made you good at this job? How did you stand out?

Candidates should always pitch themselves as achievers as opposed to doers. Make accomplishments the focal point of your resume and cover letter — and cut out the rest.

Stop the résumé firing squad: We all know the drill: Modify a few résumé buzzwords, change the company name and job title on your cover letter and fire off multiple applications into cyberspace.

Instead, opt for a quality-over-quantity approach by applying to a few positions very well. Standing out requires more time than you may be spending right now.

Ditch the cover letter robot vibe

Write a cover letter the way you would write a blog post – using a human voice. Read your cover letter aloud. Now read a post on your favorite blog aloud. Notice a difference? Your cover letter is written in a robotic voice that you may think sounds professional. It's not.

Remove words like "strong communication skills" and "good phone etiquette" from your application and write a persuasive cover letter that has some action in it. Walk the walk.

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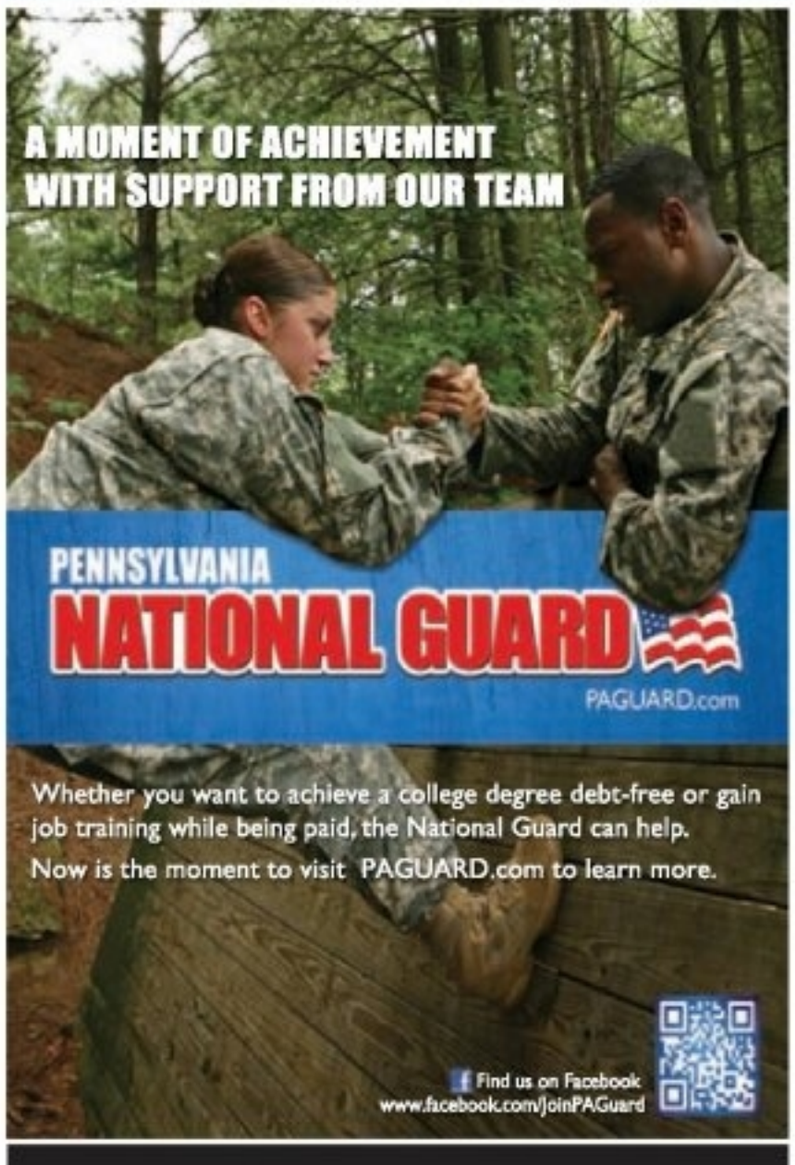
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3 Job opportunities to watch in 2013

NEW IN THE NEW YEAR

Some industries, such as health care, will always be booming. Other paths are not as obviously fruitful. "Predicting job growth is like predicting where tornadoes will form," says Rich Milgram, CEO of the job-posting website Beyond.com. "You can have all the charts and data in the world, but it's not an exact science."

Milgram says it's all about "looking for trends that can help inform how the job market will fare long-term." We got some help from industry insiders.

The industry: Real estate

PHOTODISC

▶ Even in difficult economies, real estate agents have control over their earnings.

"Even after five years of a challenging real estate market, employees of real estate companies are extremely happy with their jobs," says Doug Claffey, CEO of Workplace Dynamics. "The entrepreneurial nature of the industry gives employees a great deal of control over their own destinies and success."

The industry: Retail

Talent acquisition company iCIMS pores over data to learn who's receiving the most applications and doing the most hiring.

"At the end of 2012, iCIMS evaluated the data and noted which industries were experiencing an increase in applicant submissions for open positions," says CEO Colin Day. "Retail, transportation and health care all received the largest number of open position applications, with retail ahead in the volume of submissions."

The industry: Biosciences

While 2013 might not be a big year for biosciences and pharmaceuticals it's an area worth watching. "We don't think there's much room for growth with the large pharmaceutical companies," says Chuck Pappalardo, managing director of Trilogy Search. "This sector is too important for us not to keep a close eye on it, but the coming year — and possibly even the next five years — won't be its finest hour."

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What measures the best teacher? More than scores, study shows

Effective teachers can be identified by observing them at work, measuring their students' progress on standardized tests and asking students directly what goes on in the classroom, according to a comprehensive study released last week.

The three-year, $50 million Measures of Effective Teaching study, funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, found it was hard to predict how much students would achieve in a school year based on their teacher's years of experience or knowledge of pedagogical technique.

But researchers found they could pick out the best teachers in a school and even predict roughly how much their students would learn by using a formula that equally weighed student input, test scores and detailed classroom observations.

Taken alone, each of those measures was fairly volatile. Judging teachers by student performance on state tests, for instance, turned out to be unreliable and inconsistent. Judging teachers by a principal's observations also didn't identify who could be counted on to boost student proficiency on state math and reading tests.

Combining all three measures into a properly weighted index, however, produced a result "teachers can trust," says Vicki Phillips, a director in the education program at the Gates Foundation.

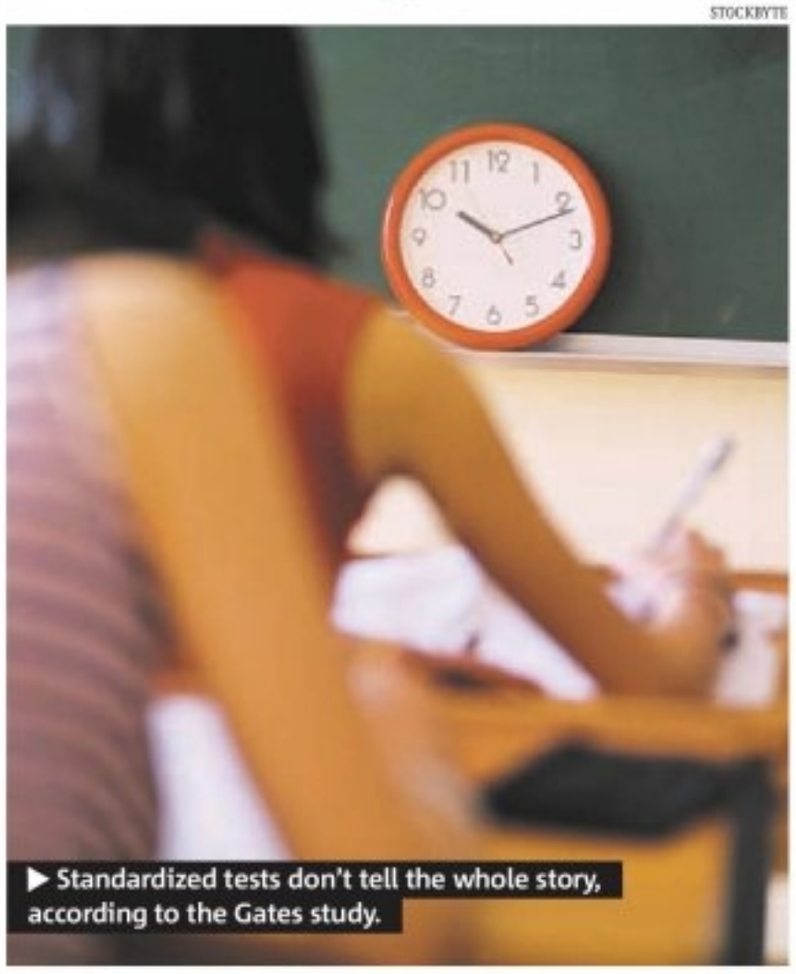
The study comes at a time of bitter political wrangling over teacher evaluations in cities like New York, Los Angeles and Chicago — and provides ammunition for all sides.

Education reformers who have been pressing to dismantle tenure systems protecting veteran teachers from layoffs could take heart in the finding that seniority doesn't predict classroom success.

Yet the report also bolstered union leaders who argue that teacher evaluations shouldn't be tied so heavily to "value-added measures" — complex algorithms that gauge whether students do better or worse on state tests after several months in a given teacher's classroom.

REUTERS

STOCKBYTE



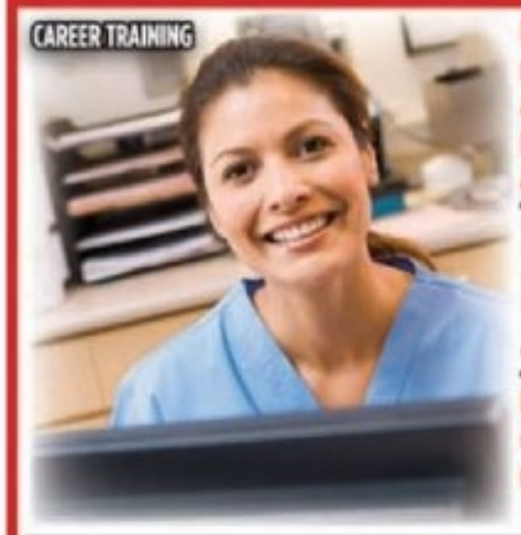
▶ Standardized tests don't tell the whole story, according to the Gates study.

"This should be a very big red flag to all those policymakers who think they can have test-based accountability be half or more of a teacher's evaluation."

RANDI WEINGARTEN, PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

Scores across the states

The Obama administration has pushed states to give heavy weight to quantitative measures such as test scores in designing teacher evaluations. More than a dozen states have moved in that direction — in some cases making it impossible for a teacher to earn a good review if his or her test scores are low, no matter how well the teacher performs on other measures. States including Florida, Louisiana, Colorado, Michigan and Ohio have been particularly aggressive in tying teacher ratings to test scores.



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The business of education

▶ Faculty at for-profit schools were more focused on real-world applications, says Lechuga.

DIGITAL VISION

Texas A&M professor Vicente Lechuga is a leading researcher of for-profit higher education in the U.S. In 2005, he conducted one of the first in-depth studies of these schools, interviewing more than 50 professors at for-profit institutions across the country. The study, "The Changing Landscape of the Academic Profession," was re-released by Routledge in December.

Do the research

▶ Before signing up for any program, do thorough research about job placement rates. "Often, for-profits have been able to skirt the issue of reporting their numbers," says Lechuga. "Although, that situation has gotten better over the last 10 years."

What did you find when you interviewed faculty at for-profit schools?

Their background was not, typically, in higher education. They usually came from the workforce, so the more hierarchical, for-profit model was something they were more comfortable with. I found a lot more top-down control at these schools. That's different in traditional institutions, where faculty have a lot of autonomy to determine how and what they teach.

Were their goals different?

A common motivator I found was a desire to provide students with real-world knowledge, not just the theoretical aspects of what they were teaching.

What do for-profit schools tend to do well?

They're very innovative in the way they deliver education. They were the first to offer online courses. When they first started doing that, many in traditional higher education sort of looked down on that idea. But now you'd be hard-pressed to find a traditional school without online courses.

What do they tend to do poorly?

There are major issues with for-profit graduation rates. There are, of course, many different types of these institutions. It's a broad spectrum, but overall it's problematic. Also, the loan default rates are much higher than at traditional institutions.

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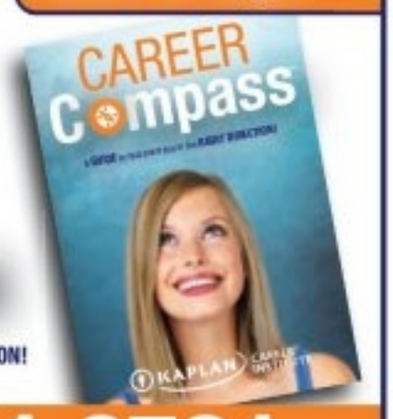

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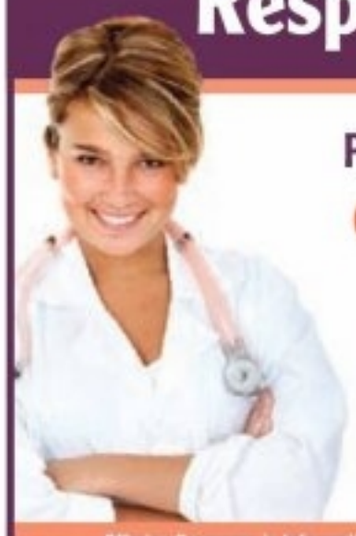
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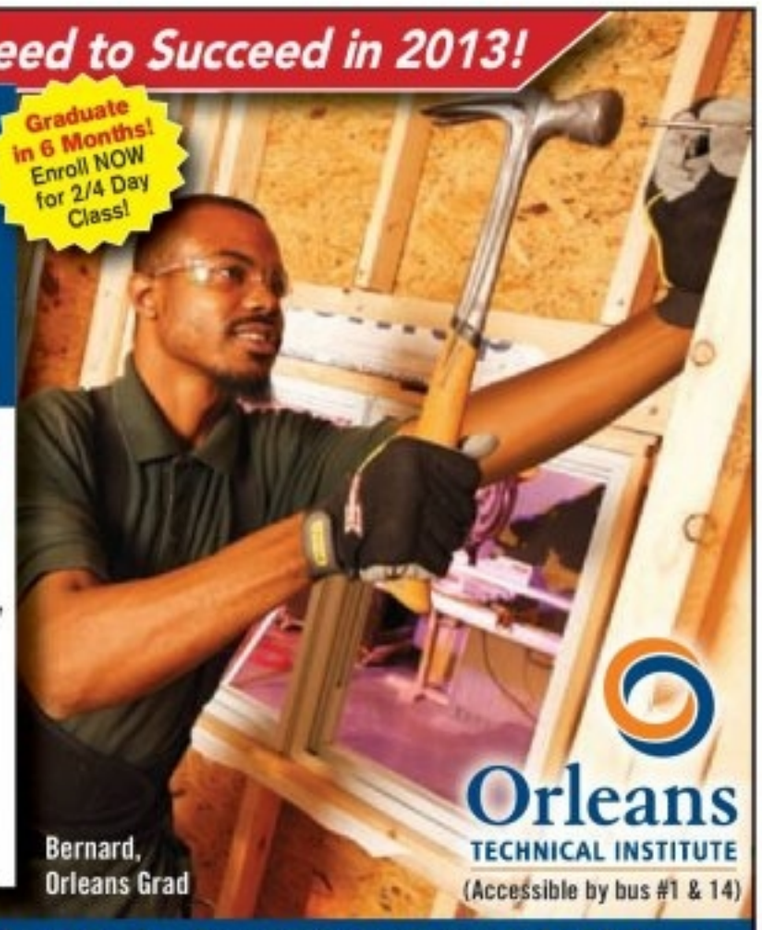
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Horoscope

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Even though your instincts are usually good, you should rely solely on your logic today. This is especially true concerning anything that you're trying to promote or sell.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** Unbeknownst to you, something opportune is developing behind the scenes that will most likely produce definite benefits. However, its full results won't be felt until later.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** An objective that you previously felt was important could begin to lose its appeal due to another aim that is now capturing your fancy becoming far more meaningful.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Whether you need to extricate yourself from a problematical arrangement or turn a losing situation into a winner, you have the ability to do either. You just have to believe in yourself.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Don't let your wonderful gift of being able to grasp facts quickly and accurately go unused. Mingle with people who can teach you what you need to know.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** There is no need to be wishy-washy about elevating your aim if that's what is needed. You'll never know how high you can score if you don't try.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** Your first thoughts aren't always your best ones, so it behooves you not to jump to conclusions. Take plenty of time to weigh and balance anything critical or important.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Although you take all of your duties seriously, you know better than most that there's always the possibility for error. Mistakes could arise when working with someone who needs detailed help.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** A better understanding can be achieved with someone whom you haven't as yet figured out. Turn this acquaintance into a close friend by getting to know each other.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Even if it takes you a while to get into full gear; once you do, chances are you will accomplish something of tremendous worth that will make you and others quite proud.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** It might pay to set aside your usual agenda and give your mind and body a rest from all your worldly affairs. Instead, do something that's frivolous.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Your financial aspects look to be especially good. If you have anything important pending, this might be the day to try to close the deal, if at all possible.

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Solution to weekend's crossword

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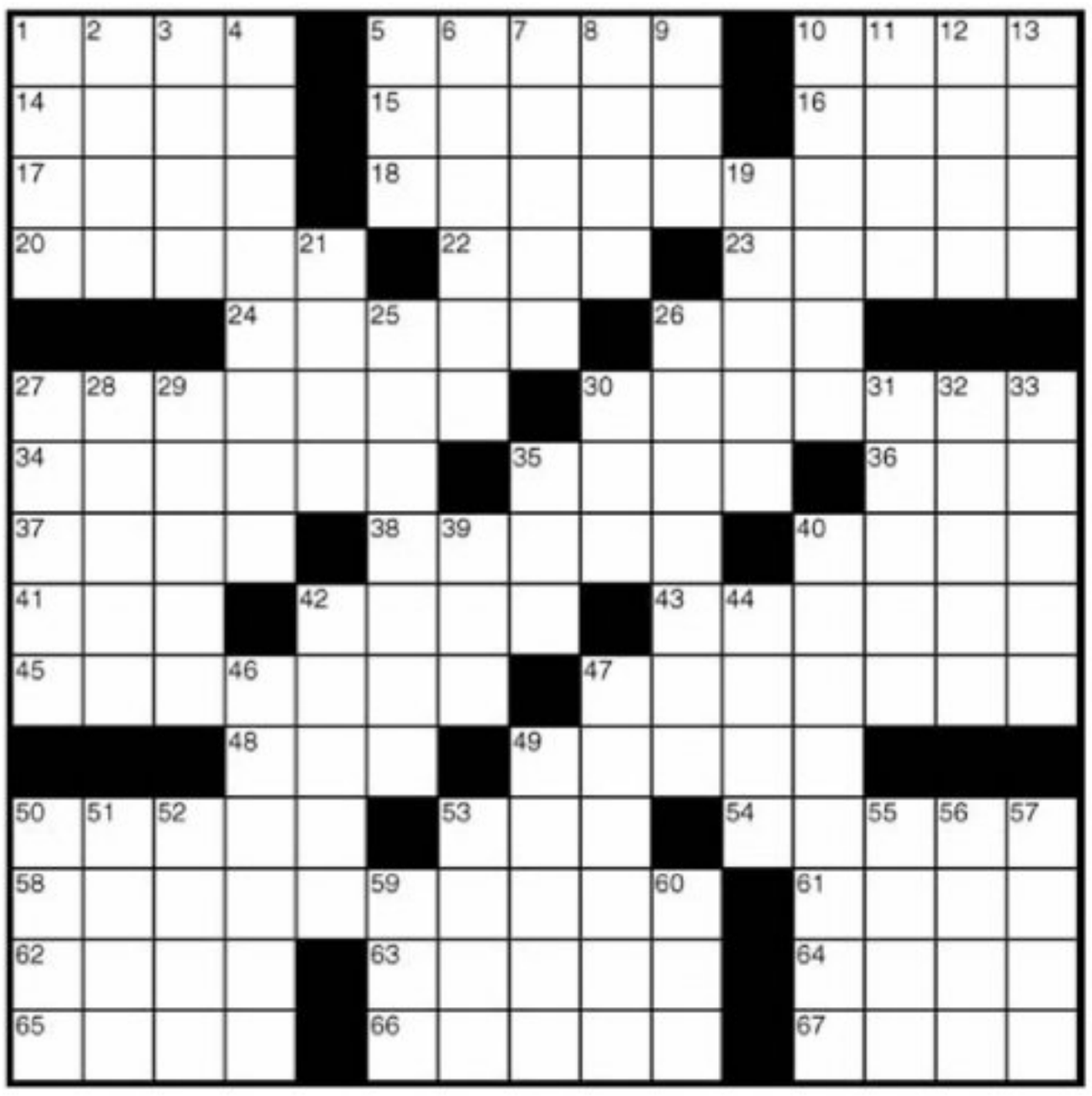
10 Beef-rating org.
14 Water or tel.
15 High mark (hyph.)
16 Entre —
17 What Cinderella fled
18 Where rockets are boosted
20 Valentino role
22 TV screen
23 Of durable wood
24 Dusk to dawn
26 Eyebrow shape
27 Cop's contact
30 Less certain
34 Type of pigeon
35 Bring on board
36 Expected any time
37 Graph part
38 Mashed potato servings
40 Geologic sample
41 Cal Tech rival
42 Move up and down
43 Greetings
45 Remove, as a cap
47 Polish
48 Ben- —
49 Tintype hue
50 The One-L Lama
53 Pentagon VIP
54 Dragon constellation
58 Spangled quartz
61 Ripoff
62 Nonrust coating
63 Eye color
64 — Minor
65 Vortex
66 Reek
67 Fall fruit

Down
1 Periscope sites
2 Idaho neighbor
3 Nail shaper
4 Midwest state
5 Four qts.
6 Geronimo's tribe
7 Say without thinking
8 Fontanne's husband
9 PC key
10 Empty out
11 Drench
12 Tenderfoot
13 Part of NBA
19 Cayuse
21 Brickmaker's oven
25 Silly one
26 Dirigible
27 Famed orca
28 Snake venom
29 Leaves out
30 Snag
31 Superstars
32 Continental bucks
33 Entertainer Della —
35 Jump on one foot
39 Attorney's forte
40 Dispels confusion (2 wds.)
42 Orange, e.g.
44 Phillips University town
46 Iffy
47 Sausage herb
49 Grab
50 Mental fog
51 Insatiable
52 What banks do
53 Chemist's weight
55 Land measure
56 Pedro's house
57 Gen. — Bradley
59 Cousins of " um"
60 Bracket type



Letters

Put the US stamp of approval on carbon taxes

After asking at the post office to see the choices in "Forever" stamps, I bought the "Go Green" set. Each stamp has a piece of advice: Choose to walk, tide a bike, use public transportation, share rides, maintain tire pressure, insulate the home, adjust the thermostat, use efficient light bulbs, fix water leaks, turn off lights not in use, let nature do the work (with a picture of a clothesline), compost, plant trees, buy local produce, reduce bags and recycle more.

Well said. Too bad the post office can't add: "Lobby Congress to pass a fair but tough carbon tax."

PAUL EMILE ANDERS, VIA E-MAIL

The tax man cometh — but only to the successful

Someone, please help me understand what happened to our country. We have more than 23 million people out of work.

We have 45 million people on food stamps (EBT cards). We have 47 million people who contribute zero tax dollars to the federal government. We are $16 trillion in debt and climbing.

President Obama will not cut spending. The best solution to this nightmare is to raise the taxes on the wealthy — that will solve everything.

Tax the only group of people that are successful.

When you take away people's spirit to work hard and succeed, you quickly become a nation in decline. President Obama's plan is working.

JOHN MCLAUGHLIN, VIA E-MAIL

You don't need guns as long as your security detail is armed and ready

I'm surprised no one has mentioned the hypocrisy of the celebrity "gun control" advocates.

The same celebrities who advocate gun bans benefit from armed security surrounding them and protecting their mansions.

Celebrity children also benefit from armed guards in schools while they criticize the NRA for wanting the same thing. And no gun control rally is complete without armed police protection.

ROCCO LORE, VIA E-MAIL

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GOT AN OPINION? SEND US YOUR THOUGHTS

Flyers singing happy tune as camp opens

Orange and Black not worried about perils of shortened season ◗ Team will open Saturday at home vs. Penguins ◗ Can Bryzgalov find championship form?

Don't worry. Be happy.

That's the tune the Flyers are singing these days, now that training camp is finally under way. The long awaited season opener against the hated Penguins is Saturday.

While others fear stringing 48 games together in a three-month span will lead to pulled hamstrings and other ailments, they would rather subscribe to the 1988 lyrics of Bobby McFerrin.

"Do we have a different choice?" asked 33-year-old winger Ruslan Fedotenko, a 12-year veteran in his second Flyers' tour of duty. "We don't, so my attitude is why worry if you can't do anything about it? Just go with the flow and try to be as prepared as possible."

It will be Peter Laviolette's job to know which buttons to push and just how hard, as he reassembles the pieces from a team that fell on its playoff face after taking out the Pens last spring. Most of those pieces are familiar, though the losses (Jaromir Jagr, Matt Carle, James van Riemsdyk, Sergei Bobrovsky) seem to outweigh the gains (defensemen Luke Schenn and Bruno Gervais, Fedotenko and resurrected goalie Michael Leighton).

▶ Bryzgalov could be in line for the NHL's version of an amnesty buyout if he doesn't improve after a mostly unimpressive 2011-12 campaign with the Flyers.

Countering that is the Flyers' youth, where young legs could make a difference when the games pile up, coupled with the fact most of them have been playing hockey during the lockout.

"Most of the guys are in game shape coming back from playing overseas or in the AHL," said 28-year-old checking line center Max Talbot. "When the season starts you've got to be ready. Where I played [in Finland] it's a great level of skill. The ice is bigger so you're doing more skating. It's not like back in the day when you didn't train until the start of camp."

Starting this week we'll find out if the time guys like Claude Giroux, Scott Hartnell and Jake Voracek spent in Europe, while youngsters Sean Couturier and Brayden Schenn were allowed to play for the Phantoms, pays off. We'll also learn if Ilya Bryzgalov, who could be in line for the NHL's version of an amnesty buyout if he doesn't perform, is ready to have a "humongous" season.

A lot of games in a short time span could be great depending on how it turns out. Just be happy they'll finally be playing hockey, the Flyers say.

The worries?

They'll have to take care of themselves.

Jon Marks
sports@metro.us

Welcome back

Flyers opened camp yesterday with 26 players (16 forwards, eight defenseman and two goaltenders).

The Flyers will host an open practice at the Wells Fargo Center Thursday at 6 p.m.

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Flyers notebook: Welcome back, Boosh; sizing up the schedule; watch the rook

The Flyers brought back a familiar face in net.

The team traded for veteran goaltender Brian Boucher, who will report to AHL affiliate, the Adirondack Phantoms.

Boucher, who last played for the Flyers during the 2010-11 season, has long been a fan favorite. GM Paul Holmgren called the move an insurance policy. Presumably, he'll only be used if Ilya Bryzgalov or Michael Leighton get injured.

"Any way I can help the organization, I'm willing to do it," Boucher said. "I'm sure right now it will be in a depth role, but I'll take any opportunity."

The team also signed defenseman Kurtis Foster. The 31-year-old is entering his 11th season after appearing in 51 games last year. Foster was drafted by Calgary in the second round back in 2000.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Boucher

Games to watch

The games will come fast and furious — seven games in 11 days in January — here are some to watch:

- **Jan. 19 vs. Pens, 3 p.m.** Rematch of last year's epic (and bloody) playoff series. Sidney Crosby and Claude Giroux exchanged words in the off-season and will be eager to see each other.
- **Jan. 22 vs. Devils, 7:30** Don't you think the Flyers want to prove that deflating second-round exit to the Devils was a fluke? No doubt this one is circled on Ilya Bryzgalov's calendar.
- **Feb. 11 at Maple Leafs, 7** Flyers face old friend James van Riemsdyk after he was traded for Luke Schenn. The top pick will want to show his former team what they're missing.

Divisional battles await Flyers

The Flyers released their 48-game schedule this past weekend. As previously reported, the team will open Saturday afternoon when they host Pittsburgh in a nationally televised game. The season ends April 28.

The Flyers will play only Eastern Conference opponents due to the shortened season.

They'll play 18 of their games strictly against Atlantic Division foes, including five against New York and five against New Jersey.

Quoted

"Our fans have waited a long time, and I want to thank them for staying with us."
SNIDER

Laughton could make impact

Flyers first-round draft pick Scott Laughton is one guy to keep an eye on this week at camp. Laughton, who went 20th overall, has a legitimate chance to earn ice time with center Danny Briere expected to miss the opener.

The Flyers could choose to run the 18-year-old out for five games without hurting his rookie eligibility.

Laughton had 13 goals and 20 assists (33 points) in 32 games for the Oshawa Generals of the Ontario Hockey League.

If he shines in camp, expect him to make the roster. METRO

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Viola McKnight #4052C • William Newson #3079D • Sabrina Reddy #3092 • Marcella Riley #3200
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Susan F Fournier Unit #1830 • Peter N Miglino Unit #1628
John R Lamanna Unit #2023 • William Fournier Unit #1704
Joseph Anthony Venuti Unit #2403 • Janice Dicamillo Unit #1253
Jonathan V Lewis Unit #2515

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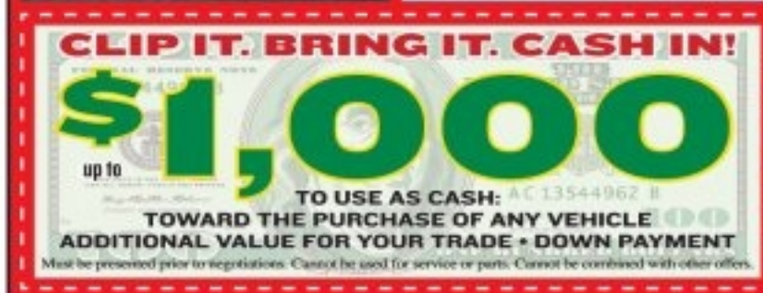

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Ryan wins first playoff game; Patriots advance

Atlanta beats Seattle in dramatic fashion ◗ New England routs Houston ◗ Conference championships next weekend

NFL playoff recap

The conference title games are set: San Francisco at Atlanta, Sunday, 3 p.m. (FOX); Baltimore at New England, Sunday, 6:30 (CBS).

Falcons 30 Seahawks 28

In the wildest game of the divisional round, Matt Ryan finally won a postseason game after rallying the Falcons for a field goal in the closing seconds. Ryan hit Harry Douglas on a 29-yard pass, then Tony Gonzalez on a 19-yarder to setup Matt Bryant for a 49-yard try. It sailed through the uprights with eight ticks left to give the NFC's top seed a dramatic victory. The Falcons had been in cruise control before blowing a 20-point lead in the fourth. Ryan entered the game with an 0-3 record in playoff games.

GETTY IMAGES

Ravens 38 Broncos 35

Joe Flacco's 70-yard fling to Jacoby Jones sent this one into overtime and Ray Lewis into hysterics. Lewis, playing in the final postseason of his Hall of Fame career, and the Ravens scored a win in double overtime after Justin Tucker kicked a 47-yard field goal.

Peyton Manning was picked off on Denver's second OT possession, setting up the game-winning kick.

Patriots 41 Texans 28

Tom Brady ran the Patriots' up-tempo offense to perfection and threw for three touchdowns to advance to the AFC championship game. Brady also moved past Joe Montana in the record books with his 17th postseason win. New England put up 457 yards of total offense against Houston, which boasts one of the best defenses in the NFL.

49ers 45 Packers 31

Colin Kaepernick validated his coach's trust by turning in a performance for the ages. He rushed for a QB-record 181 yards, while throwing for 263 (two scores) in his playoff debut. Remember, some had questioned Jim Harbaugh's decision to turn the keys over to Kaepernick permanently, after Alex Smith passed his concussion test.

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Billick latest to interview for Eagles coaching job

Another day, another coaching rumor.

The Eagles interviewed Brian Billick for their head coaching vacancy, according to ESPN's Adam Schefter. Owner Jeffrey Lurie, GM Howie Roseman and president Don Smolenski met with the former Ravens coach this past Monday. Billick, who led Baltimore to its only Super Bowl championship, hasn't coached in the NFL since 2007.

This comes after a hectic weekend when Brian Kelly opted to stay at Notre Dame, rather than schedule a second interview with the Eagles. Kelly had been considered a favorite to land the job. Instead, he became the third college coach to reject the Birds. On Saturday, the Eagles put out a statement addressing the search.

▶ Billick

GETTY IMAGES

"There is no question we spent a considerable amount of time and effort looking at who we thought were the best collegiate candidates for our head coaching job." OFFICIAL STATEMENT BY THE EAGLES

"There is no question we spent a considerable amount of time and effort looking at who we thought were the best collegiate candidates for our head coaching job. We did so knowing that there was a remote chance that these coaches would leave their current posts.

"We understood that going into the process, but we wanted to leave no stone unturned while trying to find the best head coach for the Philadelphia Eagles. We have no regrets about the effort we made in that direction, and we will continue to proceed as planned in our search."

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